

NEWSLETTER

Archaeological Society
of North Carolina

Number 94

Friends of North Carolina
Archaeology, Inc.

March, 1990

Volume 6, Number 1

Volunteers Excavate Eighteenth Century Structure

On January 27, 1990, 20 volunteers (Loretta Lautzenheiser, Jody Carter, Lorna Thigpen, Tom Cox, Mike Fleckles, Kara Kirk, Arnold Worsley, Terry Klein, Rick Morse, Tom Padgett, Dolores Hall, John Clauser, Doug Hill, Janet Foushee, Linda Wheeler, Jane Hank, Tim Mooney, Bill Conen, Alice Seagroves and Bryan Edwards) gathered in eastern Edgecombe County to assist in the excavation of a well-preserved, mid-eighteenth century structure. The volunteers, most of whom are members of Friends of North Carolina Archaeology, also included students from East Carolina University.

The site was first identified during the course of a highway corridor study. While the site will not be

affected by highway construction, it was threatened by the owner's plans to deep plow the field. The owner graciously gave permission to Loretta Lautzenheiser to conduct test excavations in the summer of 1989. The first test, a six by six foot unit, contained solid brick rubble. Artifacts recovered included kaolin pipes, and creamware, Westerwald, and white English salt-glazed ceramics.

The field was planted without tilling, and we returned to the site in the late summer. At that time a trench was opened over part of the foundation, revealing a solid brick, Flemish bond laid foundation. A deep test in one corner of the original unit indicated a packed floor.

A number of volunteers returned to the site after harvest and expanded the trench, which revealed a 20-foot foundation wall. The original test unit was expanded to 10 by 10 feet. This hardy group, including Dolores Hall, Terry Klein, Doug Hill, and Tom Padgett of Raleigh, and Lorna Thigpen, Tom Smith, and Alton Worsley of Tarboro, worked in 12 degree weather.

During the January 27th dig, five additional 10 by 10 foot units were opened. The location of these units indicated that the structure was oriented to face southeast. The units in the rear of the structure contained a number of features which await excavation. A feature located along the south wall of the structure suggested the presence of a door or opening. Upon excavation, this feature turned out to be steps into the first floor or basement. The steps contained fragments of *in situ* wood. The excavation of the feature also encountered a brick floor, which has been partially excavated.

The property owner has now agreed to allow nomination of the site to the National Register of Historic Places, and will plant around the excavation this year. He no longer plans to deep

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John Clauser exposes feature in house interior.

plow the site area. The brick floor is two feet below surface, and will be left largely intact. Additional excavations are planned for the site, and interested volunteers can call Loretta Lautzenheiser at (919) 641-4111 or 823-5723 for further information.

Loretta Lautzenheiser

From the President

I urge you to attend our spring meeting on Saturday, May 19th. An interesting program for the annual meeting has been planned by committee members Cindy Autry, Lindsey Fisher and chairperson, Dee Nelms.

You will be making decisions at our business meeting that will be important to the support of archaeology in North Carolina on the following topics:

1. Our nominating committee of Kirby Ward, Bill Moxley, and chaired by Dick Myers will propose a slate of officers to replace the president and three members of the board of directors. Board members serve a three year term and the president is elected for two years.

2. It is evident from our new Newsletter format and our joint annual meeting that there is growing cooperation between Friends and the Society. Committees from both organizations and your Board have been studying the pros and cons of forming a single organization. Will a single organization be stronger? Can the purpose and assets of Friends be safely incorporated in jointure? If the answer is yes, what is the best way to bring this about? Your counsel and voice is solicited.

Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 19th. Come to the meeting and invite others for fellowship, education, and support of a fine organization.

John McClain
FNCA President

Dear Friends,

This issue marks the first joint newsletter for the Friends of North Carolina Archaeology and the Archaeological Society of North Carolina. By combining our reports, notices, and articles of interest, both organizations hope to give you a better, more informative newsletter.

I was pleased to help with the cleanup at Blue Banks

and work at Loretta Lautzenheiser's project in Conetoe. There are many such opportunities for anyone to volunteer. If you are interested in getting involved in any of the interesting projects around the state, call the Office of State Archaeology for information. Several of these projects are reported in this issue.

I hope you enjoy our new format and new newsletter. See you at the May meeting.

Janet Foushee
FNCA Editor

ASNC Board Proposes Merger with FNCA

The Board of Directors of the Archaeological Society of North Carolina has endorsed, in principle, the idea of a merger between its organization and the Friends of North Carolina Archaeology. The benefits of such a merger are obvious. Currently, both organizations are of modest size, have similar goals, and do essentially the same sorts of things. A merger would eliminate needless duplication, increase the pool of active members, decrease administrative "overhead," lower the costs of publications, create more opportunities for interesting activities, and strengthen archaeology's voice in state affairs. There is nothing our two organizations currently do that couldn't be done better by a unified, larger organization.

How can such a "marriage" be accomplished? In our opinion, the best strategy is to create a new, nonprofit organization, into which both existing organizations could eventually merge. This approach has several advantages. First, it greatly simplifies the problem of combining ASNC's and FNCA's governing structures, since the initial slate of officers for the new organization can be chosen from both groups. Second, neither existing group has to modify its own bylaws or operations until the new organization has been set up and has achieved nonprofit status. At that point, ASNC and FNCA will independently vote on whether to merge with the new entity. If both FNCA and ASNC vote "yes," then the merger will take place. If either group balks, then nothing will have been lost. This strategy presents no risk at all to the ongoing operations of either organization, regardless of the merger's final outcome.

A number of possible names for this new organization have been discussed, including the "Society

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for North Carolina Archaeology" and the "North Carolina Archaeological Society." If you have any opinions on these names or would like to suggest others, please let us know.

Obviously, a great deal of work still needs to be done, and a great many more details need to be hammered out, before the proposed merger can be brought to the memberships for a vote. Both ASNC and FNCA have appointed committees to study the matter. The ASNC committee consists of Doug Woodworth, Richard Terrell, Nancy Brenner, Steve Davis, and Vin Steponaitis; the FNCA committee consists of Loretta Lautzenheiser, John McClain, Ned Woodall, and Steve Claggett. Working together, the committees have already drafted a set of bylaws for the new organization; these bylaws have been approved by ASNC's board and are currently being studied by FNCA's board. We will be keep you informed of all these deliberations, and will always welcome your ideas and suggestions.

In the meantime, ASNC and FNCA will continue to explore areas of fruitful cooperation. A joint newsletter (of which this is the first issue) is one such area; joint meetings (such as the one in Raleigh scheduled for May 19th) are another. The more we work together, the more common interests we will discover. I sincerely hope that, in the near future, we will succeed in making our divisions a thing of the past.

Vin Steponaitis
ASNC Executive Secretary

From the ASNC Files

[Editors note: As the ASNC and FNCA explore the possibility of a merger, it is appropriate to reflect upon the beginnings of organized participation by interested lay persons in North Carolina archaeology. The following is a brief forward on the origins and purpose of the ASNC, written by the Society's second president, Wallace E. Caldwell, and published in the *Bulletin of the Archaeological Society of North Carolina*, Vol. I, No. 1, pp. 2-3, 1934. Many of the concerns expressed by Prof. Caldwell are as relevant today as they were 56 years ago!]
Steve Davis, ASNC Editor

"For some years past a group of men interested in the study of the Indians of North Carolina have talked of the desirability of an organized approach to the problem. This talk finally resulted in a call which was sent out a year ago for a meeting of those known to be

interested. At Chapel Hill, May 12, 1933, a temporary organization was made, with Douglas L. Rights as president. The aims and purposes of the society were discussed and plans were laid out for future activities. The second meeting was held at the home of Burnham S. Colburn in Biltmore Forest on October 7, 1933. It was eminently successful as a meeting. Dr. Swanton and Mr. Judd of the Smithsonian Institution were present and gave addresses. The greatest contribution to the success of the meeting, however, was the fine hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Colburn, which those who were fortunate enough to attend will always remember.

"The Society now feels itself ready to launch forth into activities appropriate to it, in token whereof we present this first number of the Bulletin. While the Society has as an important part of its program the study of the present-day Indians on the reservations, its immediate attention is directed to the past. It plans a careful and thorough archaeological survey of the state in order to secure such knowledge as possible of those Indian tribes which once occupied it. The officers of the Society hope that soon we may have active members in every county and local museums for the study and preservation of artifacts in important centers, with a central museum at the state university. For the present, however, we must appeal to our members and to all other interested persons to cooperate with us. We ask, therefore, that any person knowing of mounds or burial grounds, village sites, workshops, battle grounds, or fields where large numbers of Indian artifacts are or have been found, send as complete information as possible to the secretary of the Society. In this way, steady progress may be made toward the complete survey.

"To collectors also we make an appeal, and we ask that this be passed along to those boys who find delight in their pile of arrowheads and tomahawks. A human artifact by itself may be an object of interest and beauty, but it has no scientific value whatsoever except in its temporal and local relations. A New Mexican arrowhead or a Paleolithic fist-hatchet from Southern France might add color to a North Carolina collection, but, unless marked as such, it could easily become the source of much confusion. It is of the greatest importance to know the exact source of any object. Collectors therefore can . . . aid materially in the work of the Society if they will keep a careful record of the place of finding of all artifacts, of the nature of the objects themselves, and of other objects found in the same place.

"The central office will be glad to receive information about unusual pieces of stone, pottery, or other objects, also photographs of objects, collections or sites. We

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shall be glad to receive, care for, and display, with due acknowledgment to the donor, any gifts of pieces or collections. Space for such purposes had been allotted to the Society in the new museum in Person Hall on the university campus. The Smithsonian Institution has promised a gift collection for our use, and several other collections have already been turned over to the Society.

"One more request we have to make. In the case of chance discovery or opening of mounds or other sites in the building of highways, in the digging of foundations, or in Boy Scout explorations, please notify the central office at once so that a competent archaeologist may visit the site, superintend the excavation, and gather the vital scientific data. Haphazard or unscientific excavation may be destructive of the most important pieces of information.

"If all the persons interested in our Indians and their predecessors can be drawn into cooperation through the Society, we may safely predict a fine future for the organization and the acquisition of a fund of knowledge which will greatly enhance the scientific value of collections and give new delight to individual collectors and students of Indian life."

Wallace E. Caldwell
(March, 1934)

Book Notes

First Encounters: Spanish Explorations in the Caribbean and the United States, 1492-1570. edited by Jerald T. Milanich and Susan Milbrath, University of Florida Press, Gainesville, 222 pp. (\$44.95 cloth, \$16.95 paper). Order from University Presses of Florida, 15 NW 15th St., Gainesville, FL 32603. This edited volume contains 13 chapters by leading scholars of the early Spanish explorations in the New World. Although written in a nontechnical style for the interested lay person, this book provides relatively up-to-date information from on-going research and is generously illustrated with both black-and-white and color photographs. Major topics considered by the various articles include archaeological evidence of Columbus' first voyage, archaeological evidence of lifeways in early Spanish towns such as Puerto Real [Haiti] and St. Augustine, the de Soto and de Luna expeditions into the Southeastern United States, and Southeastern Indian responses to Spanish contact.

This book is highly recommended for anyone interested in this fascinating period of our history.

Steve Davis, ASNC Editor

Archaeology Videotape Available

The Department of Geography and Anthropology at Louisiana State University announces the availability of a two hour VHS tape entitled "Bringing the Past Alive: Conversations with George Quimby and William Haag." The tape focuses on the archaeological experiences of Quimby and Haag during the 1930s and 1940s. The taping sessions were part of a conference, held in April 1989, funded by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities under the direction of Ann F. Ramenofsky.

Enquiries regarding acquisition of the tape should be directed to Geoscience Publications, Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University, P.O. Box 16010, Baton Rouge, LA 70893-6010. The cost of the tape is \$20.00.

FNCA Annual Dues Notices Upcoming

It's dues collection time again at the Friends of North Carolina Archaeology! Payment of dues entitles you to membership through June 30, 1991. As a valued member and Friend we know you appreciate and agree with the goals of the FNCA, as well as enjoying the Newsletter. Also, you are entitled to a ten percent discount on all publications sold by the Division of Archives and History. Your continued support is essential to the growth and development of our organization.

You should receive a notice around the first of May, so please return your card promptly.

ASNC Dues Reminder

On January 31st, dues reminders were mailed to all ASNC members who had not paid for 1990. If you still have not paid your dues, please send your check today so that you can continue receiving our publications and announcements of upcoming events. Your support of and participation in our Society is deeply appreciated.

ECU Students Explore Civil War Shipwrecks

During the month of July, 1989, staff of the Historic Preservation Office's Underwater Archaeology Unit (UAU) assisted East Carolina University's Field School in Maritime History and Underwater Research. The focus of the summer's project was to investigate the numerous Civil War shipwrecks sunk in the Cape Fear area.

The majority of these vessels were British-built blockade runners that were sunk during their attempt to elude the Union blockade and enter or leave the port of Wilmington. Although all of these sites had been previously investigated, and are included on the National Register of Historic Places' Cape Fear Civil War Shipwreck District, in most cases detailed documentation is lacking. In this regard, the field school served two purposes: to collect additional information for the production of site maps, while at the same time training students in the techniques of underwater archaeological documentation.

Gordon Watts, director of the field school, brought invaluable experience gained from almost twenty years of examining Civil War blockade runners. In addition, Mr. Watts has been studying in Scotland and England for the past three years, where he has been able to collect a wealth of information, including ship's plans, on the blockade runners. By comparing these plans, particularly

of steam machinery, with what was found on the shipwreck sites, it was possible for the first time to positively identify many of these wrecks.

Another accomplishment of the field school was filming the wreck sites using an underwater video camera. This not only serves as a very practical way to document the wrecks, but also is extremely useful in showing the wrecks to non-diving experts in ship construction and steam engineering as well as the interested public.

One of the management goals of the UAU is to create a Civil War shipwreck park offshore of Fort Fisher. Such a park would give divers access to these historic ships while protecting their remains in "preserve" environment. In addition, a shore-based facility would interpret the intriguing history of these shipwrecks through exhibits and displays. It is hoped that last summer's field school and subsequent investigations by ECU, will lay the groundwork for the thorough documentation of the sites that is the necessary first step in developing this shipwreck park.

Richard Lawrence

Volunteer Opportunities

The following are opportunities for ASNC and FNCA members to become more involved in North Carolina archaeology by participating in laboratory work and fieldwork. Your assistance in any of these projects is a great way to learn more about archaeology and really make a difference.

Burnsville, NC (Apr. 23 - May 20). David Moore, Archaeologist at the Office of State Archaeology's Western Office in Asheville, will be conducting salvage excavations at a late prehistoric Pisgah village site located on the campus of Cane River Middle School in Yancey County. Much of this work will be done with volunteers. Work will be done on weekdays and some weekends. Call David at 704-298-5024 if you can help.

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The *Modern Greece* was lost in 1862 near Fort Fisher and was one of the many shipwrecks examined by ECU students last summer.

Morganton, NC (June 12 - 23). David Moore also will be conducting excavations at an early nineteenth-century house (kitchen area) at Quaker Meadows in Burke County. Work will be on a Tuesday to Saturday schedule and volunteers are welcome. Again, call David at 704-298-5024 if you can help.

Hillsborough, NC (June 16; June 23 [rain day]). The Research Laboratories of Anthropology at UNC invites all ASNC and FNCA members to assist with archaeological excavations at the Jenrette site, a mid-seventeenth century Indian village located on the Eno River at Hillsborough. The "dig" will take place on Saturday, June 16, from 9 am to 3 pm. For further information call 919-962-6574.

Raleigh, NC. The Office of State Archaeology anticipates various opportunities to assist with salvage excavations, and maintains a list of individuals who can be called upon to help. Please let the OSA know if you are interested in being added to this list. Mark Mathis of the OSA also anticipates some openings for volunteer laboratory assistants to help clean skeletal remains from a prehistoric Indian ossuary on Knotts Island [see FNCA Newsletter, Winter 1989]. You can contact Mark at 919-733-7342 or write to the Office of State Archaeology, 109 E. Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27611.

Steve Davis

Raleigh. We have planned an all day event including: a members meeting; lunch buffet; scheduled activities; cash bar; hors d'oeuvres; and an evening speaker.

Further information on the meeting is forthcoming. Please plan to attend.

Help Needed with Hardaway Artifact Study

As part of my dissertation research on the Hardaway site, I am conducting a geological study to identify the stone types from which the projectile points and other tools in the Hardaway assemblage were manufactured. In addition, I am extending this analysis to a regional level by including data from privately-owned projectile point collections in North and South Carolina. I am very interested in examining any collections that contain either Hardaway, Palmer, or Kirk Corner-Notched points. If you would like to assist in this study by allowing me to examine your collection, please contact me at the following address: Randy Daniel, Research Laboratories of Anthropology, 108 Alumni Building, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3120.

Randy Daniel

ASNC T-Shirts

ASNC T-shirts are available again in two colors (medium blue with a silver design and gray with a black design) and four sizes (Small, Medium, Large, X-Large). They can be purchased for \$6.00 each (plus \$1.00 postage and handling) from ASNC, c/o Research Laboratories of Anthropology, 108 Alumni Building, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3120.

First Joint Meeting Slated for May

The Archaeological Society of North Carolina, the Friends of North Carolina Archaeology and the North Carolina Archaeological Council will hold a joint members meeting on May 19th at the Plantation Inn in

Second Blue Banks Clean-Up Productive

On Saturday, February 17, 1990, FNCA sponsored another clean-up day at Blue Banks, the Civil War earthworks near Greenville. A significant amount of brush deadfall was removed from the property, but additional work will be necessary before the site is in good shape. Participating in the activities were John McClain, Loretta and Ken Lautzenheiser, Bill Conen, Alice Seagroves, John Clauser, and Dolores Hall.

Another outing is planned for April. Please consider donating a day of work at the site. FNCA accepted responsibility for the preservation and maintenance of these Civil War earthworks, and now is the time for the membership to follow through on this commitment. Those willing to participate should contact Dolores Hall at the Office of State Archaeology at (919) 733-7342 for final arrangements.

Dolores Hall

Capital Square Memorial Attracts Interest

Recent activities on the north side of the state capitol in Raleigh have caused considerable consternation on the part of the general public. The circular drive and accompanying flower beds have been demolished, the entire area has been graded to two feet below present grade, and three trees have been cut down. Yet another construction project has added to the woes of the downtown driver, but to what purpose? The changes are due to the placement of a memorial to the veterans of World Wars I and II, and the Korean War.

The construction of a monument, which is forty feet high and thirty eight feet wide, has required the widening and relocation of the north driveway and the construction of a massive foundation. This ground disturbing activity on a site which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places required mitigation procedures for potential archaeological resources. John Clauser of the Office of State Archaeology monitored all grading activities and recorded a number of elements which are of interest when combined with other information about the Union Square.

A late nineteenth-century steam tunnel was located during preliminary grading. This brick vaulted structure originally provided steam service from a plant which was located behind the Labor building and was later used as access for electrical and telephone lines. Numerous utility lines were located during the grading, most of which were not in service. What is interesting is the fact that none of these lines appear on any utility plans for the capitol. Soil profiles recorded during the project verified that the capitol grounds had been raised approximately 1.5 feet, as suggested by Clauser in 1982. While no significant archaeological resources were uncovered during the excavations, the monitoring did assure that no accidental destruction occurred.

John W. Clauser, Jr.

Information for Subscribers

This newsletter is a joint publication of the Friends of North Carolina Archaeology, a non-profit organization supporting the Office of State Archaeology of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, and the Archaeological Society of North Carolina. It is published four times a year (March, June, September, December). Subscription is by membership in either organization. The editors are Janet Foushee (Friends of North Carolina Archaeology) and R. P. Stephen Davis, Jr. (Archaeological Society of North Carolina). The FNCA Publications Committee consists of David Moore, Dee Nelms, and Wayne Brooke.

We welcome your comments and suggestions. If you have any questions or comments, please write to: Friends of North Carolina Archaeology, 109 East Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27611; or Archaeological Society of North Carolina, CB# 3120 Alumni Building, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599.

Annual membership in Friends of North Carolina Archaeology is \$10.00 for individuals, \$15.00 for families, \$5.00 for senior citizens or students, and \$25.00 for institutions or corporations. All contributions to Friends of North Carolina Archaeology are tax deductible.

Annual membership in the Archaeological Society of North Carolina is \$10.00 for individuals, \$15.00 for families, \$25.00 for sustaining members, and \$25.00 for institutions. In addition to this newsletter, Society members also receive *Southern Indian Studies*, an annual journal that publishes articles on the archaeology of North Carolina and the greater Southeast.

FNCA Officers

President: John R. McClain, 911 Emory Lane, Raleigh, NC 27609.

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